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MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

October 2, 2007

In July of 2006, this Board approved my motion seeking to end the Sheriff's early release program for inmates, by increasing the use of electronic monitoring through a change in state law to move from an inmate voluntary electronic monitoring program to a mandatory electronic monitoring program at the discretion of the court and Sheriff. My motion, approved by this Board last July, asked the Governor and state legislators to revise state law to ensure that the decision about whether to serve on electronic monitoring or a 10% time jail term is left to law enforcement and not in the hands of lawbreakers.

I am happy to report that this past Wednesday the Governor signed urgency bill SB 959 (Romero) into law. This new state legislation will mean that all county inmates will move towards serving 100% of their court imposed sentence, as opposed to 50% or less of their time, in either an available jail bed or on electronic monitoring fully monitored by the Sheriff and Probation Departments.

While this Board has done much recently to fund additional jail beds, we ultimately need to fund even more beds in our system until there is a bed for everyone. Until that happens, this Bill will help ensure more beds become available for violent offenders and that non violent offenders that qualify for electronic monitoring serve 100% of their sentence as imposed by the people.

MORE)	MOTION
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BURKE	
KNABE	
ANTONOVICH	
YAROSLAVSKY	

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT 10:00am on Tuesday October 2, 2007, be held as a set item before the Board to discuss the beneficial impacts SB 959 will have on the jail system.

I, FURTHER, MOVE THAT the Board request the Sheriff to testify before the Board as part of the set item to detail the impacts that SB 959 will have on the jail system.

CG:azr

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